

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A plant package comprising a covering and a pot having a floral grouping disposed therein, the pot having a top, a bottom, a receiving space and an outer peripheral surface, and the floral grouping having a stem end and a bloom end with the floral grouping extending a distance upwardly from the top of the pot terminating with the bloom end, the covering having a closed bottom, an outer surface and a pot receiving space into which the pot is disposed, and the covering comprising:

a lower portion dimensioned to cover at least a portion of the outer peripheral surface of the pot and having an outer surface area;

an upper sleeve portion having an outer surface area and extending a distance from the lower portion; and

wherein the upper sleeve portion is detachable from the lower portion via a non-linear line of perforations disposed therebetween and wherein when the upper sleeve portion is detached from the lower portion by tearing along the non-linear line of perforations, the lower portion is left with a non-linear outer perimeter and wherein the outer surface area of

the lower portion is less than the outer surface area of the upper sleeve portion.

2. (Original) The plant package of claim 1 wherein the upper sleeve portion of the covering further comprises bonding material disposed on a portion thereof and when formed about the floral grouping, portions of the upper sleeve portion can be connected via the bonding material to form a substantially closed end.

3. (Original) The plant package of claim 1 wherein the lower portion of the covering is tapered.

4. (Original) The plant package of claim 1 wherein the upper sleeve portion of the covering is sized to substantially enclose the floral grouping contained by the pot.

5. (Original) A plant package comprising a covering and a pot having a floral grouping disposed therein, the pot having a top, a bottom, a receiving space and an outer peripheral surface, and the floral grouping having a stem end and a bloom end with the floral grouping extending a distance upwardly from the top of the pot terminating with the bloom end, the covering having a

closed bottom, an outer surface and a pot receiving space shaped and adapted to receive the pot, and the covering comprising:

- a base portion having an upper end and wherein the base portion is dimensioned to cover at least a portion of the outer peripheral surface of the pot;

- a skirt portion attached to the base portion and having an outer perimeter and extending beyond the upper end of the base portion and together the base portion and skirt portion having an outer surface area; and

- an upper sleeve portion having an outer surface area and extending a distance from the skirt portion; and

wherein the upper sleeve portion is detachable from the skirt portion via a non-linear line of perforations disposed therebetween and wherein when the upper sleeve portion is detached from the skirt portion by tearing along the non-linear line of perforations, the skirt portion is left with a non-linear outer perimeter and wherein the outer surface area of the base portion and the skirt portion is less than the outer surface area of the upper sleeve portion.

6. (Original) The plant package of claim 5 wherein the upper sleeve portion of the covering further comprises bonding material disposed on a portion thereof and when formed about the floral grouping, portions of the upper sleeve portion can be connected via the bonding material to form a substantially closed end.

7. (Original) The plant package of claim 5 wherein the base portion of the covering is tapered from the upper end of the base portion to the closed bottom.

8. (Original) The plant package of claim 5 wherein the upper sleeve portion of the covering is sized to substantially enclose a floral grouping contained by the pot.

9. (Currently Amended) A plant package comprising a covering and a pot having a floral grouping disposed therein, the covering having an outer surface and comprising:

a flexible preformed base portion having an upper end and a closed bottom and the base portion having an outer surface area and a pot receiving space shaped and sized to receive a pot,

and wherein the base portion is sized to cover a substantial portion of the outer peripheral surface of the pot;

a skirt portion attached to the base portion and having an outer surface area and extending beyond the upper end of the base portion; and

an upper sleeve portion having an outer surface area and extending a distance ~~therefrom~~ from the skirt portion and being sized to substantially surround a floral grouping disposed within the pot when the pot is disposed within the pot receiving space; and

wherein the upper portion is detachable from the skirt portion via a non-linear line of perforations disposed therebetween and wherein when the upper portion is detached from the skirt portion by tearing along the non-linear line of perforations, the skirt portion is left with a non-linear upper edge and wherein the outer surface area of the base portion and the outer surface area of the skirt portion together comprise a surface area smaller than the outer surface area of the upper sleeve portion.

10. (Original) The plant package of claim 9 wherein the upper sleeve portion of the covering further comprises a bonding material disposed on a portion of the outer perimeter thereof such that when the upper sleeve portion is formed about the floral grouping the outer perimeter of the upper sleeve portion can be connected via the bonding material to form a substantially closed end of the upper sleeve portion.

11. (Original) The plant package of claim 9 wherein the base portion is tapered from the upper end thereof to the closed bottom of the covering.

12. (Original) The plant package of claim 9 wherein the upper sleeve portion is sized to substantially surround the floral grouping contained by the pot.

13. (Currently Amended) A plant package comprising a covering and a pot having a floral grouping disposed therein, the covering having an outer surface area and comprising:

a flexible preformed base portion having an upper end and a closed bottom and the base portion having an outer surface area and a pot receiving space shaped and sized to receive a pot,

and wherein the base portion covers a substantial portion of the outer peripheral surface of the pot;

a skirt portion attached to the base portion and having an outer surface area and extending beyond the upper end of the base portion; and

an upper sleeve portion having an outer surface area and extending a distance from the skirt portion of the covering ~~and extending a distance therefrom~~ and being sized to substantially surround and enclose a floral grouping disposed within the pot when the pot is disposed within the pot receiving space; and

wherein the upper portion is detachable from the skirt portion via angularly arranged perforations disposed therebetween and wherein when the upper portion is detached from the skirt portion by tearing along the angularly arranged perforations, the skirt portion is left with a non-linear upper edge and wherein the outer surface area of the base portion and the outer surface area of the skirt portion together comprise a surface area smaller than the outer surface area of the upper sleeve portion.

14. (Original) The plant package of claim 13 wherein the upper sleeve portion of the covering further comprises bonding material disposed on a portion thereof, the upper sleeve portion sized to enclose the floral grouping and portions of the upper sleeve portion able to be connected via the bonding material to form a substantially closed upper end of the covering.

15. (Currently Amended) A plant package comprising a covering and a pot having a floral grouping disposed therein, the covering having an outer surface area and comprising:

- a flexible preformed base portion having an upper end and a closed bottom and the base portion having an outer surface area and a pot receiving space shaped and sized to receive a pot, and wherein the base portion covers a substantial portion of the outer peripheral surface of the pot;

- a skirt portion attached to the base portion and having an outer surface area and extending beyond the upper end of the base portion; and

- an upper sleeve portion having an outer surface area and extending a distance from the skirt portion of the covering ~~and extending a distance therefrom~~ and being sized to substantially surround and enclose a floral grouping disposed

within the pot when the pot is disposed within the pot receiving space; and

wherein the upper portion is detachable from the skirt portion via a curved line of perforations disposed therebetween and wherein when the upper portion is detached from the skirt portion by tearing along the curved line of perforations, the skirt portion is left with a curved upper edge and wherein the outer surface area of the base portion and the outer surface area of the skirt portion together comprise a surface area smaller than the outer surface area of the upper sleeve portion.

16. (Original) The plant package of claim 15 wherein the upper sleeve portion of the covering further comprises bonding material disposed on a portion thereof, the upper sleeve portion sized to enclose the floral grouping and portions of the upper sleeve portion able to be connected via the bonding material to form a substantially closed upper end of the covering.